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Request for the inclusion of a supplementary item in the agenda of the seventy-second session

Observer status for the Eurasian Group on Combating Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism in the General Assembly

Letter dated 25 July 2017 from the representatives of Belarus, China, India, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

We have the honour to request, in accordance with rule 14 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the inclusion in the agenda of the seventy-second session of the General Assembly of a supplementary item entitled "Observer status for the Eurasian Group on Combating Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism in the General Assembly".

In accordance with rule 20 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, an explanatory memorandum (annex I) and a draft resolution (annex II) are attached to the present letter.

We should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annexes circulated as a document of the General Assembly.

(*Signed*) Andrei **Dapkiunas**
Permanent Representative of the Republic of Belarus

(*Signed*) **Liu** Jieyi
Permanent Kepresentative of the People's Republic of China

(*Signed*) Syed **Akbaruddin**
Permanent Representative of India

(*Signed*) Kairat **Umarov**
Pcrmanent Representative of the Republic of Kazakhstan

(*Signed*) Mirgul **Moldoisaeva**
Permanent Representative of the Kyrgyz Republic

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(*Signed*) Petr **Ilichev**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation

(*Signed*) Mahmadamin **Mahmadaminov**
Permanent Representative of the Republic of Tajikistan

(*Signed*) Aksoltan **Ataeva**
Permanent Representative of Turkmenistan

(Signed) Bakhtiyor **Ibragimov**
Permanent Representative of the Republic of Uzbekistan

Annex I

Explanatory memorandum

The Agreement on the Eurasian Group on Combating Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism was signed by the Governments of the Republic of Belarus, the People's Republic of China, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Russian Federation, the Republic of Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and the Republic of Uzbekistan in Moscow on 16 June 2011, by the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan in Moscow on 4 July 2011 and by the Government of the Republic of India in Xiamen, People's Republic of China, on 24 November 2011 and entered into force on 28 March 2012.

In accordance with article 1 of the Agreement, the Group is a regional intergovernmental organization, the primary goal of which is to ensure effective interaction and cooperation at the regional level and integration of its member States into the international system of anti-money-laundering and combating financing of terrorism in accordance with the Financial Action Task Force international standards and the anti-money-laundering and combating financing of terrorism standards of other international organizations to which the States members of the Group are party.

The main bodies of the Group are the plenary meeting and the secretariat.

The main tasks of the Group are:

- Assisting member States in implementing the Financial Action Task Force international standards in the field of combating money-laundering and terrorist financing
- Developing and conducting joint activities aimed at combating money-laundering and terrorist financing
- Implementing a programme of mutual evaluations of member States on the basis of the Financial Action Task Force international standards, including assessment of the effectiveness of legislative and other measures adopted in the sphere of efforts to combat money-laundering and terrorist financing
- Coordinating international cooperation and technical assistance programmes with specialized international organizations, bodies and interested States
- Analysing money-laundering and terrorist financing trends (typologies) and exchanging best practices for combating such crimes, taking into account regional specifics

Currently there are nine member States: the Republic of Belarus, the People's Republic of China, the Republic of India, the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Russian Federation, the Republic of Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Membership in the Group is open to other countries of the Eurasian region sharing its goals and principles, on terms agreed upon by the member States in the course of the plenary meeting. It is also envisaged that any interested State or organization may obtain observer status in the Group.

It should be noted that, in accordance with Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations, the Agreement on the Eurasian Group on Combating Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism was registered with the United Nations Secretariat under registration No. 66716 on 28 June 2016.

Granting permanent observer status to the Eurasian Group on Combating Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism in the General Assembly will promote effective cooperation between the Group and the United Nations on a regular and orderly basis in the interests of both organizations and their member States.

Annex II

Draft resolution

Observer status for the Eurasian Group on Combating Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism in the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Wishing to promote cooperation between the United Nations and the Eurasian Group on Combating Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism,

1. *Decides* to invite the Eurasian Group on Combating Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism to participate in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly in the capacity of observer;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the action necessary to implement the present resolution.